

THE KAPPA ALPHA THETA.

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Some Reminiscences of The Girls' Engraving Class at Cooper Union.

The room devoted to our engraving class in Cooper Union was long and high and more or less dingy, like most work-rooms in New York City. It was well lighted by plenty of windows on one side; by an arrangement of sash shades the light came in above our heads, and fell upon our work. The opposite wall was hung with well selected specimens of wood engravings. We sat at one long table, under the windows and facing them; each of us had before her a block of boxwood upon which she was working, placed upon a leather cushion, filled with sand to ensure solidity; each had her tools at her right hand and the study from which she was engraving placed against the wall in front of her; most of us worked with an engraver's lens, held above the block by a standard; but some used spectacles that magnified.

Perhaps these reminiscences will be more intelligible if a few words about the process of wood engraving be given. Boxwood cut across the grain is used to engrave upon; this is cut the height of type, for a wood engraving prints on the same principle as type, and is set up with it and printed on the same page. That is, whatever is cut away from the block does not print at all, but is white in the picture; while the wood that is left standing takes the ink and prints black. This is exactly the reverse of steel engraving and etching.

The picture to be engraved is made in an India ink wash

on paper, and is usually much larger than the engraving is to be. This picture is photographed down to the size desired; the exquisitely smooth surface of the boxwood is sensitized, and receives a print from the negative thus taken. Thus the engraver has the miniature photograph upon the block, and also the large original study, to ensure accuracy of reproduction. The tools are of the best of steel, and have very delicate points; and the cut is made by pushing the tool forward. The incisions are usually so small that they can not be made without the assistance of a lens that magnifies slightly; a jeweler's glass is often used.

As the surface of the wood left untouched is what prints, the skill of the engraver lies mainly in knowing how much wood to cut away to leave the desired tint; and also in knowing the value of the direction of a line to express form. These things seem simple enough, but it takes years of practice to master them. A girl was not allowed to enter the engraving class at Cooper Union unless she could stay four years at least. During this time she received instruction in drawing also, as a knowledge of drawing is a necessity to an engraver.

In 1885 there were perhaps a dozen of us in the engraving class; and we came from the four corners of the United States. I remember vividly the two charming girls from Maine who sat at my right. They were "dead" in earnest, and worked early and late to master their art. They were rather envied by some of the rest of us, because they had cosy rooms in the working women's apartment house, which was inaugurated and supervised by that gracious philanthropist, Grace Dodge. This house was fitted up with special rooms for cooking, so that those who wished might get their own meals. Our comrades made us hungry by telling us of the dainties they had prepared for their breakfasts, or of the wholesome dinners served daintily off of nice china in the house restaurant, for the modest sum of twenty-five cents. Most of us were fathoming the dreariness of New York boarding houses, and the getting

of rooms in this haven and heaven for working girls, when there should be a vacancy was something bright to look forward to.

On my left sat a large handsome woman, whom I always in my own mind called, The Ox-eyed Juno, her eyes were so large and soft. She came rather irregularly and gave as an excuse, the demands upon her time by her small twin-daughters. I was vitally interested to discover that she was, to a certain degree, a member of the modern literary Bohemia of New York, as her husband was a contributor to newspapers and magazines. She had undertaken to learn wood engraving that she might illustrate his articles and especially his poems. But she was still in the incipient stage of the art. I remember the picture upon her block was that of a wash-stand, this being a good lesson in straight line work. When she finished the engraving and got a proof, she was highly delighted with it, and she cried with mock seriousness: "Until my art reaches the heights of my husband's poetry, his poetry must needs descend to the level of my art. Methinks I will take this home and demand that he forthwith write an ode—a beauteous ode to a wash-stand." Whether he did we never knew, but we never doubted that their little corner of Bohemia was a jolly abiding place. Nearest the door was a little lady who put us all to shame by her eternal diligence; we spoke of her in whispers and prophesied for her an early grave unless she mended her ways. At the far end of the room, was a sort of a half curtained alcove, in which sat two people of great importance in our eyes. One was a *chic* girl from the sunny south, who had nearly finished her course, and who had already secured a block to engrave from the Century Company,—the acme of all our ambitions. We privately believed that she had accomplished this great feat quite as much through her "taking" personality as through her skill. The other occupant of the alcove of honor, was the superintendent of our room, Miss Naylor. She was a charming young Irish-woman, with a fascinating accent and delightful manners.

She had regular employment as an engraver, and carried on her work here. Her business was not to teach us but to see that we kept busy and reasonably quiet. We had no right to ask her for help, but she gave it so cheerfully and so freely and always with that entrancing Irish cordiality that I fear we imposed upon her to an unpardonable extent. We were very fond of her, and took great pride in her skill. Her specialty was fac-simile work, which she did with marvellous accuracy. I remember some small reproductions that she made of some large lithographed cartoons published in France at the time of the Revolution. It seemed to us that every grain of the stone was shown in miniature in her proofs.

But our red letter days were the three mornings of the week when our teacher, Mr. John P. Davis, came to us. It is a little difficult now, after ten years, to describe just what he was to us, or how we adored him. When we heard his step outside the door, all our heads were lifted; as he came in with a cheery good morning and an infectious, genial laugh, we at once experienced an elation, and our perplexities vanished in the sunshine of his mere presence. We never thought if his stature were great or small, or if he were handsome or plain; we only knew that the inspiration we received from him was only equalled by his blessed helpfulness. What cared we if he poked gentle fun at our mistakes, as long as this fun healed the sore spot that was aching before he entered. He told us plain truths about our inefficiency and lack of skill, but told them so sweetly and so tactfully that we felt honored rather than disgraced.

His criticism was of the truly great kind; the criticism that results in creation rather than mere destruction. He took us each in turn, sat by the side of each, and took the tool from the unskilled hand and cut with it wondrous lines upon the block in the midst of her own ineffectual chipping, lines that won her admiration and despair as long as the block was before her.

As he sat beside us he talked with us more or less; his conversation was ever sincere and earnest, yet graced with flashes of keen humor, and was as much of an education to us almost as were his lessons upon our blocks. There was no building up of one side under his tuition; he broadened us in a hundred subtle ways, of which we were not then conscious, but which we now comprehend and appreciate. He combined in himself the enthusiasm of a boy with the skill and experience of the two score and ten years which he had miraculously accomplished without loss of sweetness or freshness of spirit.

He was wont to tell us that we must see, and feel, and *live*, before we could expect much of ourselves as artists. One day one of the pupils asked him in despair, after he had given her a lesson upon her block, "Oh! Mr. Davis! How shall I ever learn to cut a line so full of feeling as this?" He looked at her with a doubtful, puzzled expression for a moment, then his face lighted up as a brilliant solution of the problem came to him. "Read Browning, my dear child, read Browning," he exclaimed. He had found life in all its heights and depths mirrored in Browning's poetry; where else could she learn so fully the lesson that would teach her to cut a "feeling" line?

That the development of the soul and the cultivation of the mind must precede the technical cultivation of the hand, was his theory of teaching and his method in so far as circumstances allowed him to follow his own ideals. He had been for years the librarian of the Oratorio Society of New York, and was a friend of the Damrosches, father and sons. Therefore was it that we of his engraving class received complimentary tickets, night after night, for the best concerts and operas given in New York. If lifting and enlightening the soul through music could help us cut a line, then did our teacher do his best for us. It was he that had covered the blank wall of our room at Cooper Union with engravings by master hands; and with characteristic mod-

esty, among all these engravings were only two or three of his own. These, however, we studied more than all the rest, for of all living engravers there were none more skillful or sympathetic or masterly than *our master*. And yet, with all of our admiration for him, there was no mawkish sentimentality in our feelings toward him. His personality was so wholesome, so normal, and so frank, that we never thought whether he was man or woman. He was simply a great, helpful soul.

We knew that he had a studio in a mysterious Somewhere; and at this studio met at stated intervals the *Society of American Wood Engravers*, a coterie of masters whom we mentioned with bated breath, because they were so great. Some of our number had met a few of those demi-gods, Kingsley, King, and French, and we looked upon these favored girls with an awe only equalled by that vouchsafed to the girl who had in some mysterious manner come into possession of one of Juengling's tools.

Two years later, through the grace of the Master, rather than through my own deserving, I was allowed to work for a time in this studio, this Elysian field where our Olympians met and disported themselves. I have no space here to describe the sublime disorder of that delightful, picturesque and most hospitable room. Boxes of framed engravings and piles of books jostled against plaster casts, easy chairs, and tables heaped with bric-a-brac. At irregular intervals on the walls were pinned sketches in oil and water colors and proofs of engravings. A screen across a corner hid material from which a most savory luncheon could be evolved by the hand that was as masterly with a chafing dish as with a graver.

As long as I live, the memory will live with me of those happy days spent in that room of enchantment. My bungling hand forgot to blunder when the master stopped his own work to read to us pages from *Saul* and *Paracelsus*, or to teach us art from *Andrea del Sarto* and *Fra Lippo Lippi*, or to sing to us in a sweet, sympathetic voice, pas-

sages from *The Creation* or *The Messiah*. With music in our ears, and the spirit of Browning in our souls, and the grace of God, as exemplified in our teacher in our hearts, small excuse had we that we did not also become masters. But, as Kipling says, "that is another story."

To return to our engraving class. The time of highest excitement in our room was when some one of our number got far enough along to have a proof struck from her block. Now there is nothing so insidiously deceptive as an engraved block before it is blackened with ink. The pretty tones of the cut lines, added to the pretty shades of the photograph upon the surface of the wood, all tend to puff up the engraver with pride and hope. So it was with heart beating high with anticipation that one of us would wrap her block in a piece of paper and wend her way with it down town to the printers.

There was just one place in all the world that we knew of where engravers' proofs were taken. To get there we must go down to Park Place, cross the Bowery, thread narrow, gloomy Frankfort street, and finally enter a low dingy door, and then climb divers stairs, and wander in a labyrinth of narrow, dark halls, invariably getting lost before we found a hand on the wall pointing still upward to "J. C. Bauer, printer."

Lucky was the girl in those days if when once she had attained the long, rather interesting room, with its three hand presses, she could secure at once the services of one of the skillful, painstaking German art printers. Usually she was told she must come again next day for her proof. But if her work could be done at once, she sat with her heart in her throat while her precious block was put under the rollers, and the wild excitement with which she grasped her first proof invariably changed to a deep gloom while she gazed.

We got to know well the look of grim melancholy which a girl's face would wear when she came back to us from the printer with her parcel of proofs. But we always gathered around her eagerly and gazed at the

proofs with great interest. We were a friendly lot and wished each other success most loyally. We always did our best to comfort and encourage the owner of the proofs by picking out certain passages in the engraving to commend, and by finding beauty and merit where she had never suspected them. But we learned to be wary in doing this, for too often the consoler would exclaim, "Right there is a place full of feeling," and the consoled would reply bitterly, "It ought to be. Mr. Davis did that one day when he gave me a lesson." By well directed effort we were usually able to convince our suffering comrade that her work was not "so bad," but she usually spent the rest of her day sharpening her tools, an occupation never resorted to except from necessity or despair.

One never failing source of amusement we had, and that was public day. On certain days of the week people were allowed to visit all the departments of the school. The first thing that greeted their vision when they entered our room was the row of us sitting there working through magnifying glasses; and one thought invariably occurred to them, namely that the work must be a severe strain upon the eyes. The form the question always took was, "Isn't it very hard upon the eyes?" As a matter of fact it is no strain whatever upon the eyes, and the perpetual question became finally a matter for jeers among us. When the innocent and truth-seeking visitor leaned over the shoulder of one of us and put the inevitable question, an ominous silence would fall upon the room, while the victim stammered through an explanation conscious that she had the individual attention of every person in the room, and knowing well the giggle and the free comments on her answer that would ensue as soon as the guests had departed. The girl who could invent a new answer, however mendacious, to the decrepit old question, was the recipient of congratulations and much applause as soon as the strangers were beyond hearing.

Our ill-fated engraving class at Cooper Union! Where are its members to-day? Scattered again to their several

ends of the earth, no doubt. Only one thing do I know of them, and that is that none of them have ever attained the much coveted distinction of becoming engravers for the *Century* or *Harpers*. But this is not our fault perhaps, but rather the fault of those magazines that encouraged and built up to its highest perfection the only art in which America ever transcended Europe, and then turned traitors to their own child. The beautiful art of wood engraving has been largely supplanted in these magazines by the cheap, dim and inartistic photographic process called half-tone, a method of reproducing works of art so common, that to-day the cheapest illustrated periodicals are as good as the best, or rather the best are as bad as the poorest.

Through this dethroning of the ideals of popular art illustration, the highest the world has ever known, not only was the engraving class at Cooper Union given up, but many a master hand has been idle during recent years. And our beautiful art, most exquisite in its possibilities of rendering color and texture in black and white, is dying of starvation, while our illustrated periodicals have been wallowing in the slough of half-tone mediocrity.

The Fraternity Journal.

Our editor has asked me to say something in regard to what it is that the journal most needs. On the whole, I am sorry that she has asked this of me, for my conscience will not allow me to refuse her request; and yet I must confess in the beginning that I do not know what it is that the journal most needs. Circumstances have been such that I have given the matter more or less thought for the last two years, but I have reached no definite conclusions, partly for the reason that fraternity journalism is one of those beautifully inexact sciences that admit of no conclusions, or rather, that admit of so many that your faith is shaken in all.

By far the most difficult problem that any corps of officers in Kappa Alpha Theta has to confront is the journal. It is a question that has been staring us as a fraternity in the face ever since the establishment of the quarterly some ten or twelve years ago, and has never yet received an answer altogether satisfactory. It is not easy to discover just where the trouble lies. We have had competent editors who have worked conscientiously, yet none of us, and least of all the editors themselves, have felt satisfied with the publication of the fraternity. It is true that the chapters have not at all times given the journal and its editing board their heartiest support and coöperation; yet I doubt whether this failure on the part of the chapters to do their full duty will entirely account for the limited measure of success of the journal. It would be fortunate for us if it could be accounted for in this way, fortunate if we could lay a finger on so definite and tangible a source of trouble; for then we could at least know what it is that we have to correct or counteract, and it would be easier to plan a method of procedure. As it is, each editor enters upon her duties with an honest ambition to improve the journal, at the same time without a clear understanding of what the reform is which she is expected and which she so sincerely desires to institute.

The feeling is strong throughout the fraternity that an official publication is essential ; and when we consider the general plan of fraternity organization, a series of isolated chapters united in name and purpose, yet each having interests so largely individual and local, it really seems that the fraternity journal is inevitable, if the chapters are to be kept in touch with each other and informed of the work and progress of the fraternity outside of their own immediate circles. The journal is one of the things that has been taken by common consent. We have said that we must have it, and so far so good. Beyond that as a fraternity we have given the question little or no consideration. We have been ready enough to criticize, but our criticism has been purely of a negative kind. We have said that the journal did not suit us, that it was not what it should be. There we have stopped, and the editor was no better off than she was before, as she knew all this even better than we did. Perhaps we have realized that it is far from an easy matter to edit a journal that will meet all the demands of the case and prove of interest to all involved ; and we have sought to evade the difficulty by electing an editor, whom we hoped would be equal to the emergency, and to whom we were willing to give all the praise if she succeeded, and all the blame if she failed. The greatest obstacle our editor has to encounter is the fact that we have given her no clear idea of what we want or expect. We have never outlined what the policy of the journal should be ; we have simply left it to her to make of it what she would or could.

There are, it seems to me, two kinds of fraternity publications, one very easy and direct, the other very difficult. The former a fraternity bulletin or report, of a purely business character, limited in circulation to our own membership, and restricted in contents to matter having a direct bearing upon fraternity life ; the other a journal of more pretentious character (such in a general way as it is our present aim to publish) with a threefold purpose in view, *i. e.*, to serve primarily as the mouthpiece of the chapters

and the Grand Council, to represent us as a fraternity to the outside world, and to present a discussion of those topics that are of peculiar interest to college women. On account of its simplicity and directness, the former publication has commended itself to a few of our members, and I must confess that I am one of this minority. I am not able to see the *raison d'être* of the fraternity journal as we have known it in our and other societies. For the fundamental purpose of a fraternity publication is to keep the chapters in touch with each other, and to give any information needed upon any specific fraternity question; and this could be accomplished quite as well by a fraternity bulletin as by a journal, and with much less expense and work.

But the last convention was unanimously in favor of the continuation of the journal, and the question at hand is how this can be maintained most successfully. I have one practical suggestion to offer, namely, the establishment of two departments in the journal, one that is primarily intended for active chapters, the second devoted more particularly to the interests of the *alumnæ* and to a discussion of those things that are of interest to college girls no longer in college. For the college girl out of college is not identical with the college girl in college; and it has been almost an impossibility to edit a magazine that will prove of interest to both classes of readers. We are anxious that the *alumnæ* should give some support to the journal; yet to ask this of them is to make a heavy drain upon their public spirit, if there is to be nothing in the journal that interests them. The time of conventions is too full and too limited to permit of a discussion of a number of topics that in reality should be brought from time to time before the chapters. Non-secrecy, pan-Hellenism and Rushing are examples of the subjects I mean. There is a reason and demand at the present time for a discussion of non-secrecy from both the affirmative and negative points of view. If one number of the journal, in a department devoted to the active chapters, could present this topic from the affirmative stand-point,

perhaps in two or three short papers, with the understanding that in the next issue these papers will be answered from the negative side, it would be both interesting and helpful. As examples of the subjects that would be of interest to alumnæ members of the fraternity, I would suggest the college settlement, university extension, and certain phases of current history. The various educational and social movements of the times we all know of in a way ; but I suspect that for the most part our knowledge is vague and inaccurate.

I very much doubt the propriety of a literary department in the journal. There are more magazines at hand than any of us find time to read, and there is no reason why we as a fraternity should undertake the publication of a literary magazine. In fact, there are several reasons why we should not do so. If, however, there *is* to be a literary department in connection with the journal, I should recommend strongly that it be confined to current literature and its different phases. Praiseworthy as our prize essays are in and of themselves, it is scarcely in good taste to make the fraternity magazine a repository for them ; and such essays in the nature of things cannot be of as much interest to a general reader as to the writer herself and her professor of English. It is hard for the college girl to find time to read the books of the day, the books that everyone reads and talks of, yet opinions about them are always useful and expected ; and whatever helps her to obtain them serves a useful purpose. Book reviews, criticisms, short sketches, or essays upon the tendencies or characteristics of the literature of the day might, perhaps be embodied to advantage in a literary department ; but this department, it seems to me, should be regarded as of purely secondary importance.

Perhaps it would not be amiss to comment briefly on the chapter letters. It is true that letter writers are born, not made, and I suspect it is also true that the famous letter-writers of the world were never obliged to write chapter letters. Chapter letters are an altogether unique species of

correspondence. They are by no means easy to write ; but inasmuch as they *have* to be written, inasmuch as they constitute a fraternity obligation that must be met, there should be an honest effort to improve them. It sometimes happens that a chapter has very little to put into her letter for the journal, that there is almost nothing to tell that will be of interest to those outside of her own number ; and when this is the case, the chapter is wise who is brief and to the point. Few of the chapters realize that their reputations are at stake in these letters, that to a great extent they give the chapters their standing in the general fraternity. Each member of the Grand Council, for lack of a better way to judge, is obliged to rely almost solely upon the regularity and general tone of these letters in forming her estimate of the different chapters.

In conclusion, I would like to suggest that since the last convention was so unanimously in favor of continuing the journal in its present form and character, the fraternity is under contract to give Iota and the board of editors that she has chosen the most loyal support. It is an unwritten contract it is true, and one which there is no way to enforce should any of us see fit to violate it. There is not even a day of reckoning ahead, when the editing chapter can make a report and say, "Vengeance is mine." Iota will do all that she can for the success of the journal ; but she has undertaken to do this in the faith that each chapter will keep her part of the agreement, and it is sincerely to be hoped that this faith may not be shattered.

—M. E. S.

Fraternity Loyalty.

Lack of loyalty would seem almost the last charge which could be brought against a member of Kappa Alpha Theta. Perhaps such a charge is merited in no way, and yet, in thinking over the wants of the fraternity this has been suggested as one of them.

By loyalty is not meant here loyalty to the fraternity or chapter. That we always possess, sometimes to such a degree as to feel that there are few other things worth being as loyal to. Neither is it exactly personal loyalty to individual members of the chapter which is lacking. Definition is hard, but perhaps the fault is best located by calling it the spirit of criticism. This may not seem a fault at first. Perhaps we have been told and have told others without quite thinking whether we believed it or not, that one of the best things about fraternity life was the help which a girl received from the kindly criticism of other members. The writer believed this familiar truth at first. Just now she is not so sure of her implicit faith in the matter.

Criticism is a good thing—a most excellent thing, but, like other good and excellent things, is better taken in small doses and at the right time. Perhaps it may be one of the best things about fraternity life, but it can be that, to a sensitive girl at least, only when it comes from the one or two members of her chapter who are a little more a part of her life than the others, and who, she feels sure suggest improvements or alterations to her not only out of a feeling that something is wrong, that she is not in every respect what an ideal member of her fraternity should be, but also out of the depth of a real, true personal affection for her. Under such circumstances and with such reasons we may perhaps tell a friend, who is a personal friend as well as fraternity sister, wherein we think she may change for the better, but beyond this it is very difficult to go.

Yet, if criticism never went beyond the person who gave

and the person who received the kindly advice, all might still be what it should be, even if the element of personal friendship were not present. Unfortunately, limits of that sort can not easily be set. It is so easy, in speaking to a third person, to say, almost without thinking, that we wish So-and-so would not do this or that, and soon it is a fourth or a fifth person who has become our confidant, and then, perhaps So-and-so has changed her identity, and the feeling of sisterhood is not quite so sweet and pleasant as it was before the first careless word was uttered. It is all meant well, we know we are actuated by the best of motives in what we say, our liking for the person with whom we are finding fault is real, perhaps the fault is so small that it would not strike us as a fault in any except a fraternity sister in whom we expect a somewhat nearer approach to perfection than in one in whom we have no interest, and yet, out of the spirit of petty criticism which is growing up in us, unknown to ourselves, sometimes springs a feeling of discontent which, in time, is to spoil for us who indulge in it much of the pleasant intercourse of fraternity life. It is very hard to discuss the failings of a friend and still keep the same friendly feeling towards her. The way in which to love a person "in spite of her fault" is surely not by dwelling upon these faults either with oneself or to others but rather by looking beyond these faults and remembering instead the many good qualities while we forget the one to which we object.

The unit of a fraternity is never one girl, never self. It is, or ought to be, the whole fraternity. It is when we descend from the larger to the smaller limit, consider personal feelings rather than general fraternity interests, that the larger feeling of loyalty is lost and the smaller one of petty criticism creeps in. If fault is found, how often is it to be referred to a falling off, not from the Theta ideal, or type which has gradually formed itself during years of chapter life and experience, but from some one individual's idea of what she would like this type to be. It is almost as dangerous to make self a unit in such things as it would be were

one girl to act upon her own responsibility in matters which required general action from the whole fraternity.

"But" the answer to all this may be, "if we see a fault in one of our friends, a little fault which might so easily be corrected, are we to do nothing about it, but simply close our eyes to its existence though we cannot close them to the fact that it is perhaps growing all the time?" Is that what you call "fraternity loyalty." Again the unit self comes in. Are you the only one who sees the little fault? Do you not suppose that the girl in question, having all the qualities which she must have shown before she became a member of the fraternity, is herself blind to the thing to which you object? Ten to one, she has known of it longer than you, and in time through her efforts, and contrast with other members who lack this one fault though they possess others, it will be lost altogether. If she does not know it—well, if you are the member of the chapter whose friendship means most to her, you may perhaps say what you wish, but see that it goes no further. Fault finding to a third person—petty criticism of some one who is absent, from however high ideals it may spring, can work even more harm in a fraternity than elsewhere. There is a different feeling there to spoil, more to be lost than elsewhere, and it will surely be spoiled or lost—and the loss will be even more yours than that of the person you criticize.

Perhaps this is empty theorizing and we are all happily free from this kind of disloyalty. If that be true, so much the better, but again let it be emphatically said that while heart-loyalty may be the better and more precious possession, there is an importance not to be overlooked in mere lip-loyalty, that feeling of sisterhood which will allow us to say no slighting word of a friend to a third person, but if we must say it, make us say it to her face.

President's Letter.

To all sisters in K. A. Θ. greeting :

With this issue of the journal the new council elected and installed at the convention in Syracuse, actively assumes control of the affairs of the fraternity for two years. We are not insensible to the honor which you have conferred upon us. We feel the responsibility of administering the business of our sisterhood which with the year just closed has completed its first quarter century of existence.

We may be pardoned, as Thetas, a backward glance of pride, and a tribute of praise to the women who, in 1870, conceived and founded the first women's fraternity. So firm was their foundation, and so high and noble their conception of the possibilities of the college woman, that in living up to its demands we have grown wide as the nation. Our fraternity has kept pace with the progress of education and sees before it only a future of greater success.

As we step into this future, let us remember, however, that the greatest success is confidence or "perfect understanding between sincere people." Let this be the success which we labor for, true inward growth, rather than the outward spread of success which only "causes us to be more praised than known."

In assuming the duties of government, therefore, I take it that this is the work before us, to bind together in perfect confidence and understanding the college girls who wear the Kite as the outward symbol of earnest endeavor after true womanhood. If we shall have made this bond closer between all our sisters, Eastern, Western and Central, then we shall feel that we have in some measure fulfilled our trust. It is our sincere purpose to be useful to you. Will you not freely use us?

The variation of accents over the letters *a o o* on the fraternity pin as made by the different firms has been corrected. The Newman marks are correct, and the chapters will please

note the correct accents α ω \acute{o} and see that in the future their pins are so marked.

The removal of Delta chapter from Ill. Wesleyan Univ. to Champaign, Ill., which was left in the hands of the council has been done. We speak a hearty welcome into K. A. Θ . to the new sisters in this university.

HARRIET LUCRETIA FUNCK.

ALUMNÆ DEPARTMENT.

An Open Meeting of Gamma Alumnæ.

As the fall has passed and Gamma Alumnæ has felt herself grow, and has known that she has power, if she could but exert it, she has asked herself two questions, which must come to all thoughtful minds sooner or later : After all our acquisitions, what can we give back? How shall we give back? Yes, not merely give, but give back to those from whom we have received. The second question of "How" is perhaps the more important, involving thoughtful efforts for its solution.

On the last Saturday of December, at our regular monthly meeting, an attempt was made to solve these questions. Perhaps this meeting might have been criticised by some as an open meeting, there being three ladies with us who were not Thetas; but it was from them that we hoped to receive answers to our questions. Surely, Theta must indeed be narrow if she cannot gather good from sources outside herself. Mrs. Glücksmann had invited to her home Miss Hammond, who is connected with the College Settlement work; Miss Mosenthal, of the University Settlement, and Dr. Kelly, who represents simply what a noble woman can do independent of organization.

Miss Hammond told particularly of her work in a boys' club, of her spirit in the work and of some of her results. Miss Mosenthal gave a brief review of the University Settlement movement, from its beginning up to the present time. Though of directly opposite temperaments, and consequently with somewhat different methods of work, the experience of both ladies had taught them the same grand principles which can be learned only by direct contact with human nature, especially of the poorer people. In the first place, human character is the same the world over. There are the

same yearnings, the same affections and dislikes, the same sense of honor, and the same inclination to evil. If in one so-called division of society these traits have of necessity taken a different form from those in another division, shall the more fortunate consider the less fortunate as something far beneath them—as of a different race? If, then, we are more or less alike, we need much the same thing: friends, not charity. The poor who want what is popularly known as charity, and who seek it, are not worthy of it. One who takes up any work which will be helpful, must leave all patronage and condescension at home; must take the attitude of a friend. It is just from a failure to do this that so many have been utterly disappointed in the result of their efforts. Both College and University Settlements need helpers, but not people who are simply diverting their minds for a time with a little charitable work. Finally, there is no doubt that those who work among the poor receive, in most cases, as much and probably more good than they can possibly give. The great fundamental purpose of these settlements is to bring the two elements of society together for mutual help and advantage.

Dr. Kelly emphasized her strong belief in individual work as opposed to organized public charity. Here she struck a note of sympathy in some of us. She gave instances of the interference of public charity, which had done vastly more harm than good; cases in which charity had been offered which was neither sought nor needed. Surely we must respect the rights of the poor, not only in our law courts, but in their homes and home affairs. Dr. Kelly believes that there would better be no charity than that which is given from the offices of charity organizations. At the same time she recognized that the work in the College and University Settlements has much of the right spirit. Each soul, she believes, must find its own sphere of work, and no one can decide for it what that sphere may be.

In these days the young college woman hears much of her mission. Has she a mission? Yes, I suppose so, as every

woman has; but do not let her imagine that her place is necessarily in so-called philanthropic work. In the first place, a college education by itself does not fit a woman to take up such work. Unless she has had contact with humanity, and a mind and sympathy to understand the lessons that humanity may teach her, her failures will be many. What is needed is warm sympathy, tempered by sound judgment and abundant common sense. Pity should have little place, for it weakens action. On the other hand, there are those who are straining after honors and achievements—restless and dissatisfied with the results of their work—who might find the hoped for calm in personal sympathetic work for their less fortunate sisters.

And, if you will have patience for one more word from Gamma, should not alumnæ chapters of our fraternity be the guiding examples and helpers of their younger sisters who are still in college? Gamma would send this her message: Find your place in life and hold to it. One's success need not be rated by the amount of applause and stir that one makes. Indeed, what we need to-day is the educated woman who can bring peace and home about her. Moreover, we hope no girl will make a sacrifice of herself. Any work that sacrifices physical or mental powers is criminal. Love your work and follow it with moderation.

—GAMMA ALUMNÆ,

College Settlement.

I want to call the attention of the K. A. Θ.'s to the work of the college settlements, which has doubtless come to their notice to some extent, but which has not yet received from college women the serious consideration and support that is its due.

I shall not go into details here in regard to the work which differs greatly in the different settlements. Along the general lines of philanthropy and sociology, the settlement uses the most modern and scientific methods. It gives "not alms, but a friend." It is a bridge over the stream that separates the different classes of mankind, and in uniting them, often proves itself quite as much a friend to the rich and educated as to the poor and ignorant people.

To the student in sociology the settlement presents most valuable opportunities for the gathering of materials at first hand. Situated as it is in the very center of the most populous city districts, and on a friendly basis with the people, it is a vantage ground for investigation and for the study of some of the most vital social problems that are before the country.

Settlement work can be done effectively only by educated people. The college graduate is essential to it, but the gain is not all on the side of the work. The advantages to the "settler" are many and important. To know and be able to sympathize knowingly with human nature, is an education of the broadest kind. Most of us are very limited in this knowledge. We have been brought up and educated with people whose lives and interests and customs are much like ours. In the settlement we work with these same people, but we are living among others whom we have known as dressmakers, shop girls, as conductors or newsboys, but not as friends, whose lives, pitifully meagre socially and intellectually as they may be, are often full of nobility and generosity that put ours to shame. Constantly facing these

real needs, and endeavoring to supply them, our own lives are more satisfying, more normal.

In bringing together and interpreting between the different grades of society, the "settler" finds herself becoming more large-minded and tolerant, more generous and sympathetic.

If the young women, who are free to do so, go into settlement life, even for a short time, they will find that it gives them new and higher aims, new incentives, the full employment of their energies, and the satisfying of their ambition to do something really worth while. The settlement movement needs, too, the sympathy and intelligent support of the college women who cannot live in the settlements and enter into the work directly, but can easily keep in touch with the work being done through the reports of the different settlements, and the constantly increasing literature on the subject.

—AMELIA SHAPLEIGH.

UNDERGRADUATE DEPARTMENT.

MY DEAR THETA SISTERS :—As a matter of course you all are interested in the establishing of Delta Chapter at Champaign, Ill. I find myself a very poor hand to tell all we did, but I know you all want to hear about the initiation, for is there anything more interesting in our chapter life than initiation, when we show to some new girls our Theta secrets and give them a real Theta grip?

Well, to begin with, the date of the initiation was fixed on November 9, and all that day we had the fun of going to the different trains to meet the girls who had just arrived, and as after each train our number grew larger and larger people would look and wonder who those girls were with their gold and black ribbons. When we finally ended we found we had Misses Carrie Rives, Ada Campbell, Gertrude Neal, Mary Ritter, Ethel Arnold, Frances Arnold, Josephine Cartright, Mary Goodwin and Edna O'Dell of Alpha chapter; Misses Della Evans, Caroline Minor, Alta Henry, Carolyn Gerrish, and Emma Pierson of Beta chapter; Misses Dorothy Bagshawe, Grace Dietrich, Ida Sawyer, Harriet Campbell, Elizabeth Spies and Jessie Cope, of Tau chapter; Misses Mary Potter, Bessie Luke, Margaret Bailey, Cora Wamsley, and Lelia Means, of the Delta at Illinois Wesleyan University; and two Thetas who are at Champaign, Mrs. Hammond of Chi chapter, and Miss Merrill of Kappa chapter. So you see we had a good strong band with which to make the goat behave.

We all assembled at the home of Marion Wright, at half after six. "Now be on time, girls, for we have thirteen girls to initiate and that will take some time." It is needless to say we were all there, as well as our lucky thirteen.

The Transfer
of Delta.

The goat behaved well, considering, and our Alpha sisters were kind enough to help with part of their initiation which was very beautiful.

Let me introduce to you the thirteen girls we gave the grip to that night—Misses Marion Wright, Reba Wharton, Georgia Bennett, Mary Greene, Ruth Raymond, Marion Thompson, Bertha Pillsbury, Louise Jones, Ida Conn, Mabel Zilly, Blanch Herrick, Mary Noble and Isabelle Noble.

After the initiation we had a "spread" of all the good things which Theta girls like. How I wish all Thetas could have been there and enjoyed it with us and helped us sing the Theta songs, for we had a jolly good time, getting to know one another, and giving the new girls all sorts of advice. But, alas, it was Saturday night and twelve o'clock came all too soon, and with it the carriages which were to take us to the places where we were entertained.

We girls of the old Delta chapter are very proud of our new sisters—and let me whisper it to you so as they can't hear—we have cause to be, for they are all strong girls and have fully entered into the real Theta spirit, and are making a good success with their chapter.

Wishing you all a most prosperous year,

Your Delta sister,

LELIA F. MEANS.

College friends, not necessarily fraternity sisters are what I mean, but naturally in connection with the fraternity.

Are we broad-minded enough? Our fraternities must not make us conservative, but rather the privileges of a fraternity should bring also breadth of mind
College Friends. and liberality, we should give ourselves more thoroughly to each other, to outside girls particularly, not as intimate friends, but as fellow beings.

A college girl, and particularly a fraternity girl, should be alive to all that goes on around her, she should feel an interest in everything with which she comes in contact; and if in things, how much more in people. It is really such a little thing to be kind, yet how much a little kindness is

appreciated. We who give scarcely feel it, except to feel better for the kind thought, but one word which costs so little, might give to some one so much happiness.

For us duty lies in trying each day to do as well as we can all that we do, and the principal part of the duty lies in doing it cheerfully and willingly. Let us try each day to be more patient with those around us.

A friend must trust a friend. A friend should have such perfect faith in her friend that she would never doubt her good intentions. George Eliot says—No soul is desolate as long as there is a human being for whom it can feel trust and reverence. This miserable habit of apologizing forever and explaining matters certainly does not mean *true friendship*. Let us all try sincerely to live up to our best and highest ideal and trust our friends. For as long as we doubt each other, and until we trust each other implicitly we cannot be true friends or know real friendship.

—MARY JANNEY WILLIAMS, '98, (*Alpha Beta*.)

It is a curious and interesting fact that it never seems to occur to some fraternity members that it would be very nice of them when visiting in a place where there is a chapter located, to make their presence known, and that it sometimes puts the chapter members in an awkward position if they do not do so. It is not a pleasant sensation for a girl who is proud of her fraternity to be told by an outsider that some sister from another chapter has been staying with friends in the university for a week, and to have to acknowledge and try to explain the fact that she not only had not met her, but had not even a Suggestion known that she was in town. And the resident girl is not to blame if she is slow in finding it out when the news is left to reach her by accident, never a sure or rapid means of communication.

Aside from the unpleasant feeling that it gives one, both have lost an opportunity. No chapter can afford to feel

that it has nothing to gain from another and besides the pleasure and general suggestions each may gain, no girl who cares for the fraternity as a whole will overlook a chance of meeting the members of the different chapters, especially at their colleges and learning the individualities of each. If she does it is because she sees her fraternity through her own chapter rather as a local organization than as a fraternity.

—C. A.

CHAPTER LETTERS.

The date upon which the next chapter letter should be sent out is April 10.

Please write on one side only of the paper, and put the personals on a separate sheet headed only by the name of the chapter. Any personal communication to the editor should also be written on a separate sheet.

Please note the way the chapter letters are headed and always arrange them in the same way, putting nothing at the head but the names of the chapter and the university.

Alpha District.

IOTA—CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

Since Iota has been obliged to say so much in the present issue of the journal, doubtless she will receive secret if not open thanks for her consideration in relating briefly the required budget of gossip. Perhaps, after all, sacred history would be a better term than gossip to apply to a tale which concerns five freshmen who said "yea," four before the the year died and the other with the coming of the new year. Much has been said and written about mystic seven. This year, with Iota at least, five was the mystic and satisfactory number in our diary—a mental one.

In the November issue of the journal Iota remarked rather grimly, "We are strong this year and feel that if we do not gain the new girls we want it will be our own fault." Since then our strength has been proved; we have gained the five new members we wanted and modestly assure ourselves that it was our own fault, for once, at least, perfectly willing to take whatever blame may be bestowed.

In accordance with an agreement between three of the fraternities no new girls were asked until the seventh of December. Initiation came shortly after the new year, and now there are five more Iota Thetas, Gladys Willard, Louise Katz, Cornelia Trowbridge, Lisle McCollom and Adelaide

Young, all freshmen ready for four years of loyal sisterhood. We were very fortunate in having with us at the initiation Emma Berry, '91, and Margaret Boynton, '95. In this case it is due the freshmen to say that they were marvellously appreciative of their mercies.

As regards rushing this year, there was even less than usual from all sides, which is now almost equivalent to none at all. Judging from present indications, many of the disagreeable features of days past have died a natural if not easy death, for which extend congratulations, knowing that if fate still decrees some to live in a "rushed" and "rushing" atmosphere, you have our deepest sympathy and silent prayers for a speedy change of climate in which there may be less nervous strain and more real wholesome life.

With best wishes from all to all.

LAMBDA—UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT.

Although some time has passed since Lambda has been heard from through the journal, yet she has by no means retired from active life. On the contrary she has been unusually busy since the college year commenced.

The entering class contained a large number of girls, all very pleasant. And, after due deliberation we chose and have initiated seven; Clara Gillette, Clara Johnson, Mabel Nelson, Marian McIntyre, May Russell, Mary Tewksbury and Lucy Sawyer. We congratulate ourselves on having added so many interesting and helpful girls to our number.

A pleasant feature of this year was a visit from Miss Sawyer of Omega, who came to us after convention. She spent sometime with us and we all enjoyed her very much. During her visit a warm friend of our society, Mrs. Fred Pease, tendered us a reception, in honor of Miss Sawyer.

Our literary work this year has been conducted on a more systematic basis than formerly. We find it very interesting and instructive.

Lambda has never been stronger and better prepared for

work than she is now, and her outlook for the future is bright indeed. For each sister chapter we covet the same prosperity which we are enjoying.

MU--ALLEGHENY COLLEGE.

After enjoying to the utmost our holiday vacation, we return with renewed vigor to our studies, and appreciate all the more, after the short separation, the pleasure of being together.

Allegheny is having a very prosperous year, and has furnished us with excellent Theta material, our initiates numbering five.

Although we have been hard at work, our social duties have not been neglected. The remembrance of many pleasant gatherings lingers in our minds, prominent among them the reception given our chapter and some of our friends by Mrs. Woodring in honor of her niece, who is one of our new members.

We consider ourselves very fortunate in having in the city with us an unusually large number of our alumnæ, who have lost none of their loyalty to their fraternity since leaving college. Clara Howard, '93, Elva Bassom, '94, Alice Crittenden, '92, and Clara Campbell, '95 are holding positions on "*The Chautauquan*."

We regret that Lena Lattin, our delegate to the convention was unable to return to college at the beginning of the term, on account of poor health, but we hope to have her with us soon.

Mu sends greetings to all her sister Thetas and wishes them a prosperous and happy year.

CHI--SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY.

At this, the beginning of a New Year and a new term, Chi sends greetings and best wishes for a prosperous and happy year.

We begin this winter term with twenty-seven active mem-

bers. Two who were with us last term have been unable to return; one on account of illness, and the other having accepted a teaching position. We have two new pledged girls, whom we expect to initiate into the mysteries of Kappa Alpha Theta on the seventeenth of January. Let me introduce to all our sister chapters, Ina Kinsey, '99, and Florence Tinsman, '99, who by the time this letter reaches you all, will be full-fledged Thetas.

The fall term was a gay one, in social life, for Chi. No sooner had the gaieties of our own Convention passed, than we found ourselves in the midst of those of Delta Kappa Epsilon and Gamma Phi Beta. We entertained the delegates of both these societies and found among their numbers some who knew our Theta sisters in the West.

This term we have been afflicted with more afternoon recitations and Syracusans think themselves oppressed to a great degree. At the end of this term Professors Man and Haanel sail for Germany and we shall all miss them very much.

Lottie M. Gooding, who was with us last year, visited us this week and her bright face was a welcome sight in our chapter house. We are all very happy together this year and only wish all Thetas enjoyed the privileges of a chapter house.

ALPHA BETA—SWARTHMORE COLLEGE.

The New Year, with its good wishes to one and all, brought us back to college for another term of work and pleasure after the two weeks' separation at the Christmas time.

Since the last journal letter we have added to the mystic circle two lovely girls, Susan W. Atkinson, '98, whom we initiated on November 9, at the home of two of our alumnae, and Pauline Broomell, '99, initiated November 15. A number of our alumnae sisters were present at both initiations, and lent a hand in introducing into the bonds of Theta these our new loyal sisters.

One clear, bracing November afternoon, with our garnet flags flying, a party of us started on a tally-ho drive of about twelve miles, to see the Swarthmore football team play Haverford. Although cruel Fate decreed defeat, the day was a most pleasant one to us, and after accepting the kindness of our sister, Hannah Clothier, and enjoying the hospitality of her home, we sounded our bugle and were soon on the way to our gray-stone Alma Mater.

Seven of our girls spent the Thanksgiving holidays together in Lancaster, realizing what a great pleasure it is to visit at the homes of our sisters.

Alpha Beta sends love and hopes the New Year may be a happy one to all her sisters.

Beta District.

ALPHA—DE PAUW UNIVERSITY.

Another year has rolled around and Alpha sisters send greetings and best wishes to Thetas everywhere.

During the past year De Pauw has been at some disadvantage on account of financial difficulties, but these have been overcome and prospects are very bright indeed. Her students are very enthusiastic, never once losing faith in old De Pauw.

The girls are at present much interested in a gymnasium, which has been a long-felt want. But at last we can boast of one and a lively interest is manifested. We college girls often forget that successful mental work depends much on the physical condition. And right here may I say a word concerning the perverted idea many of us have of the purpose of education. But few girls develop symmetrically, few take advantage of all the opportunities of college life. We either become narrow-minded book-worms, or we go to the other extreme. The fraternity, however, has a neutralizing power, and each year we realize more keenly the influence which each girl exerts over her sisters.

Since we last wrote Alpha has lost two sisters, or rather

has gained two brothers. Last Tuesday, Daisy Mikels, '94, was married to Mr. Ed Neff, an old De Pauw student and a member of Phi Delta Theta. On December 19, Catherine Coffin, our graduate student of last year, was married to Mr. Lee Phillips, of Los Angeles, California. We hope that our brothers appreciate the honor bestowed upon them by Kappa Alpha Theta, and we feel quite sure that these two sisters will prove to be model wives.

On November 9th, six girls from Tau, five from Beta, seven from the old Delta chapter, and nine of our own girls met at Champaign, Illinois, where thirteen girls were to be initiated into the mysteries of Theta. It is always a pleasure to meet sisters from other chapters, and especially on such an occasion as this. Our girls returned, reporting a delightful time and sang the praises of Tau, Beta, and old and new Delta. They found the girls at Champaign very enthusiastic and feel confident that the new chapter will soon be one of the strongest.

May '96 be a year of profit and pleasure to you all. With characteristic zeal let us make it the most successful in the history of Theta.

BETA—INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY.

We are glad to be together once more after our pleasant vacation. The winter term's work has begun in earnest and every thing goes on again as usual. We have our first meeting of the year next Saturday night. We are sorry that one of our sisters could not be with us this term but we are glad to have two of the "old girls" in college again.

This year has been an especially helpful one to all of us. When we last wrote to you there were only eleven of us. An unusually large number of fine girls came to "I. U." in the fall. Last term we initiated, Caroline Minor, Gertrude McCleery, Carolyn Gerrish, Louise Thrall, Maud Showers, Lenora Alexander, Everesta Spink, Nell McMahan, Edna Johnson, Gertrude Simons, Linda Jose, Cora Mahurien,

Florence Myrick, Stella Pied, Katherine Schaffer, Edith and Maud Holland. Our meetings are enthusiastic and every sister has the true Theta spirit. Our last meeting of last term was one of the pleasantest. Our chapter paper, "*The Kite*" was read after which we feasted on all the good things that we could buy, sang songs, and had a general jollification. There were five of our girls who attended the initiation of Delta Chapter at Champaign, Illinois. This was a very pleasant feature of the year and we were sorry that more could not go. The most delightful part of it all was to become acquainted with Thetas from our sister chapters.

One of the last things we did last year was to have a Theta group taken. The picture was a success and we think it quite a pretty group if it is not conceited to say so.

We feel that the university was never in a better condition. All of the departments are under experienced men who know their work. We are expecting to have a thousand students by the spring term. Since the beginning of this year a Woman's League has been organized in which all of the young women of the university are interested. It is thought to be a very good thing. It is the one organization in the university where all the women meet on a common basis, with no fraternity or factional idea existing.

The twentieth of this month is to be devoted to exercises appropriate to Foundation Day. We are all loyal to our Alma Mater and this day is always greatly enjoyed.

Beta wishes the best possible success to all her sister chapters and she will close by telling you that all the sisters in Beta are loyal Thetas, ever striving to live nearer to the Theta ideal. We love our badge and we wish to be worthy of it.

DELTA—UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS.

The year of '96 finds the girls of Delta working with great zeal in fraternity affairs. Since we said good bye to Miss Means and the other girls who helped us in the initia-

tion we have been busy gaining experience in fraternity work, as that was the thing which our friends from the other chapters thought we needed. In this short time we have met that experience in many ways, and now feel that it is quite an old acquaintance. We are finding that a fraternity means work, enjoyment, and growth; and of course we are eager for the best advancement of the chapter, so the work is done faithfully, and other things follow.

Mrs. Hammond, of Chi, is with us helping us with her wise advice and sympathy, and we also have the privilege of having Miss Merrill, of Kappa, with us.

With best wishes for the new year.

EPSILON—WOOSTER UNIVERSITY.

Our winter term began Jan. 2, giving us only a short vacation this year. But though we had but a short vacation, we have worked since school has begun and introduced as new Thetas Mabel Moderwell, special, and Bessie Davidson, pledged.

December 19 our journal correspondent, Belle T. Platter, was married in Hauke Chapel to the Rev. Hamill Shields, '92. Epsilon attended the wedding in full numbers, a section of the church being reserved for them, cut off by the black and gold. Mr. and Mrs. Shields now reside in Detroit, where he is pastor of the Calvary Presbyterian Church, and where, we assure you, any Theta would receive a hearty welcome should she have opportunity to call on Mrs. Shields.

Our new dormitory is now finished at a cost of \$20,000, and already some of our girls have found their homes there. While it separates the dormitory girls from those who live in the city, yet we all meet on common ground in the recreation rooms and at frat-meeting.

We are making great preparations to celebrate our 25th anniversary on the 27th of January. We expect a number of old Thetas to be with us and tell us of the good old times

they had in college ; one of the charter members of Epsilon is to be toastmistress at our banquet.

With greetings to all.

ETA—UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.

Our last letter had to be sent before we had much to report, so I shall make that an excuse if this letter seems too long.

Early in the year we initiated two splendid girls, Carrie Mowry, of Saginaw, Mich., and Anna L. Harris, of Ann Arbor, the latter is a sister of two of our charter members, so comes into the fraternity with more than the usual amount of fraternity spirit. I am glad to report also that we have pledged Edna Paddock, of Coldwater, Mich., who gives promise of being a fine addition to our chapter. A short time before the holidays we learned that there was another Theta in college—Miss Reid, formerly of Epsilon ; we called upon her immediately, and found her a most charming girl.

Ruth Gould, one of the Tau girls, spent a few weeks in Ann Arbor, and we enjoyed seeing her, as we always do any Theta from other chapters. Kate Landfair, one of our own charter members, spent part of the holidays here. Most of the girls had left, but we who remained enjoyed meeting her very much.

I have to report the first marriage which has taken place among Eta's members. The young woman to set this example is Jessie Beal, of Lansing. She was married January 2d to Mr. Ray Stannard Baker, of Chicago.

Mrs. Walker, one of Eta's patronesses, entertained all of the college girls who could not go home, New Year's afternoon. There were about seventy-five girls present, and the afternoon was spent playing games and looking at the many beautiful and interesting things which Mrs. Walker brought home from her recent trip abroad.

Recent letters from Dorothy Roth, who had to leave college last year on account of her health, tell us that she is better and is successfully giving talks and lessons on German and English literature in S. Pasadena, California.

Eta welcomes the new editors, and hopes they may have few difficulties to contend with, and many successes to repay them.

KAPPA—UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS.

If this letter should have a slight tinge of melancholy throughout, we beg you to remember that the "exams" are almost upon us, consequently there are reasons.

Kappa has been very conservative this year, doing little rushing and sending out very few invitations. However, the three whom we have to present to you are more than worth all the others, and we feel sure that they are all real Thetas in spirit and will be a credit to us.

Did somebody say that a chapter is always proud of its new girls? Well, we are, and we wish to announce it and impress the fact upon you.

We had the great pleasure toward the first of the year of meeting Miss Sims, of Alpha chapter, who was at Kansas University upon Y. W. C. A. work. She immediately took a very warm place in our hearts and we wished that we might have the opportunity of giving her the grip every day. We also enjoy having with us Mrs. Paul Leonard, of Lambda chapter. She is one for whom it is very easy to feel a sisterly affection and we are all very proud and fond of her, we assure you.

It has helped us so much having these other chapters represented among us, as it drew us nearer to them and made us feel that they are not merely names or "voices crying" in the Kappa Alpha Theta, but real and living friends and sisters. Then being charmed as we were with their representatives we feel so proud of "our frat" that we can only express ourselves by saying, as did one of our enthusiastic new girls, who exclaimed in a burst of confidence, "Well, the Thetas are the nicest girls in the world and there's no doubt about it!"

One of our girls has been married this year to a Phi Gam, and we are also sad over another who has been obliged to

leave school because of the failure of her parents' health. But we hope to have her back next year, so we are not as doleful as we might be.

We send you best wishes for a happy new year and much growth in Kappa Alpha Theta.

MU—HANOVER COLLEGE.

Our girls all returned after their vacation, with renewed enthusiasm and many plans for both work and pleasure. But this week one of our number, Agnes Giboney, has been compelled to leave college for the year owing to serious sickness in her family, yet as Agnes is one of our resident members we hope to have her often present at our meetings.

Just before the holidays we initiated Mary Brewer, a member of the sophomore class. We take great pride in our new member and are sure she will be an honor to Theta.

I think that we look forward to the weekly meetings at our hall with even more pleasure than ever before. The five seniors feel that their active fraternity life is fast drawing to a close and that each meeting is very precious and not one can be missed.

The new gymnasium, which is said to be the largest college gymnasium in the state, will be completed next week. The students of Hanover are jubilant over the prospect of our Science Hall. By a donation from Senator Brice, of Ohio, the full amount necessary for its erection was raised and the work of building will begin in the spring.

PI—ALBION COLLEGE.

A new year has come to us with its unwritten pages and good resolutions. That these resolutions may be kept and that the pages may be filled with a glorious history is the wish of Pi for all her sister chapters.

This school year opened auspiciously for us. Eleven active, loyal members returning at the beginning of the fall term, six of whom were members of the senior class and ac-

cordingly very dignified, one a giddy junior, and four were sober sophomores. A more congenial chapter it would be almost impossible to find. Never before had the bond of sisterhood seemed to draw us so near to each other.

The number of desirable girls in the freshman class seemed to be larger than usual; but Pi was very anxious to get only the very best as her own. At last it was decided and the important question was placed before six of the chosen ones. It was not long until each decided that for her there was but one fraternity and that was Kappa Alpha Theta. So upon one chilly autumn evening we introduced each and all to Billy, who gave them a royal welcome in true goat fashion, and although at first he was rather astonished to find so many awaiting his arrival, he soon entered into the spirit of the occasion and carried them safely within the portals of K. A. Θ.

The names of our new sisters are : Sadie Cooper, Grace Marshall, Blanche Williams, Lottie Weldy, Alice Temple and Nellie Adams.

It was early in the year that we decided to leave our old hall where we have been since the establishment of the chapter. Although we disliked to leave the place associated with so many tender memories of sisters who had been with us in the past, we were sure that it was for the best to leave what had been termed a fire-trap, and find rooms more accessible. We have now four very pleasant rooms in a private residence and are as cosy as can be until we can build a lodge, which we hope to do in the near future.

The senior class election of speakers for Class Day next June, took place in November, and Pi feels honored to have two of the three lady speakers chosen from her number. Pearl Field gives the Address to Undergraduates and Vera Parmater gives the class Prophecy.

The Alpha Chi Omega sorority have recently finished a very pretty new lodge which is situated upon the college campus. It was formally opened Dec. 11 by a reception to all the fraternity people and other friends of the sorority.

The Sigma Chi and Delta Tau Delta fraternities each gave their annual Thanksgiving banquet this year, which were very pleasant occasions. Alpha Tau Omega also gave a very enjoyable evening to their lady friends later in the term.

The senior class was very delightfully entertained last term by the members of '96 of Sigma Chi, in honor of one of their members who leaves for travel and study in Europe the first of this year.

The cold weather brings with it many pleasant thoughts of coasting, sleighing, skating, etc., but our vacation is past and we must soon be buried deep in the mysteries of science and language.

TAU—NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY.

We were all very glad to leave the college world for a while and enjoyed the holidays at home. Now we have returned with renewed vigor to enter upon the work of this term. Our chapter roll will be somewhat changed. Alice Blodgett will spend part of the winter south. Mabel Tuller is quite ill, and Grace Dietrich will spend the winter in California.

Since our last letter, very little has happened. There have been few diversions for the strong minds and the weak ones have had no leisure for hope or love, not even time for sleep.

We are planning for an alumni banquet and will undoubtedly have a "noisy, gay" time for the old girls are just as full of Theta enthusiasm as they were in those dim, dead, freshmen days when they cleaned frat hall and washed the dishes. With best wishes for many "New Years."

UPSILON—UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA.

Since our last letter, Upsilon has initiated four of the freshman class: Isabella Armstrong, Grayce Rector, Charlotte Hall and Foi Hotchkiss, and we are confident in their ability to keep up our standard. We have for the first time in several years, taken a room for meetings. Though it is

too small to fill the place of the houses some chapters enjoy, still it has been a great convenience through its nearness to the University.

Among the students, football claimed the greatest share of attention early in the fall. Only the girls of Psi can appreciate our feelings when we defeated Wisconsin. It was the game everyone had looked forward to with hope and fear for so long, and the contest up to the last minute was so close that no one could blame us for being almost wild with delight. We were sorry some of the Psi girls did not come up to the game.

Our university has, during the last two years, taken a fresh start in music. There is a long course of Chamber Music concerts this winter, that are growing in popularity. The choral union gave a successful grand concert with Melba as soloist.

All these things, however, which are the most apparent to outsiders, are to us very small in comparison to the real work that keeps us all so busy.

PSI—UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN.

By this time our fraternity life has settled down into the usual channels. We have initiated six fine girls all of whom enter as freshmen. Five of them, Alice Sceils, Bertha Brown, Belle Dirimple, Adele Szold and Grace Cloes are working for a degree and the other, Anna Williams has entered the school of music.

On Thanksgiving we had a reunion and fraternity dinner at the house, several of the old girls came out and every one had a most delightful time.

Some of the girls went down to Anna Strong's wedding which took place December 31st.

Thus far this year social affairs at the University have been confined to the fraternities, several dancing parties have been given, and Delta Gamma, Kappa Kappa Gamma and Chi Psi have each entertained the members of the other fraternities at large receptions.

Soon the one large university party of the year, the Junior Prom. will be held in the Armory, and Saturday evening, Jan. 11th, the senior girls are to receive the gentlemen of the class in Library Hall.

With love for all Thetas.

ALPHA GAMMA—OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY.

As no letter from Alpha Gamma appeared in the November number of our journal, I shall begin by telling you something of the opening of our University last September.

The year began with increased numbers and better facilities in many lines of work than ever before. The new observatory, begun during the summer vacation, has been completed. Our new President, Dr. Canfield, who came to us from the University of Nebraska, is very much liked by all the students. He has won the hearts of all by his untiring interest in everything that concerns the students and by his real college enthusiasm. Dr. Canfield and his wife have very pleasantly entertained the students several times during the fall.

Alpha Gamma had but eight active members at the opening of the present year, to which number she has since added three freshmen. They are Florence Bell, Columbus, O.; Anna Williams, Jackson, O., and Austa Kelly, Mt. Gilead, O. We have lost one bid to the K. K. F.'s, and they one to us this year. We are planning for an initiation to be held almost immediately upon the beginning of the winter term.

We have been deeply grieved during the past few days by the sudden death of one of our most interesting college girls, Miss Gwendolin Ingram. The Kappa Kappa Gamma fraternity have lost in her a strong member and her class, that of '98, one of its loveliest and brightest girls.

This year instead of having fraternity meetings every week, we have regular business meetings but once in two weeks.

Besides the little rush parties given early in the year, we

have been very delightfully entertained a number of times by some of the girls on weeks alternating with the regular fraternity meetings. We spent one evening with great profit to every one of us, in hearing the report of the Syracuse convention from our delegate, Clara Luse.

With loving greetings to all.

Gamma District.

PHI—LELAND STANFORD, JR., UNIVERSITY.

How Phi wishes she could send you an envelope full of this California sunshine to-day. It would tell her tale perfectly, and, she is vain enough to think, would be a treat to you at the same time. Ask Omega about it. Does the sun shine in the east half so generously, half so gloriously, as in this western land!

There! I think you know what Phi's first blessing has been these past few months. The weather, metaphorically speaking, too. The year started off full of promise, the best sort of promise—that which fulfills itself. We lost so many girls last year that we were a little uncertain how our world would wag. We feared that we inexperienced children of the fraternity might not be sufficient weight upon it to keep its motion sure and steady. But all has gone well and we feel more confidence in our own powers after this half year of responsibility. The house is full now and all the matters about its management nicely arranged. The thanks for that, however, falls largely to Mrs. Edwards, who has been one of our fulfilled promises.

We had our initiation this year in Oakland. Miss Hume, to whom the birth fairies brought this world's gold and that gold of the higher world, generosity, gave us the banquet and full possession of her beautiful home. Several of the Omega girls were present and some of our '95 graduates, so we made a large and happy company. We received five new girls, giving them not only the pin, but a hearty welcome.

Dear girls they are, each one, and we all feel more glad over them every day. Not only loveable, I hasten to add, knowing that I write of and to college girls, but strong and intellectual, worthy of the diamonds.

So many of the girls are out of the house that we have concocted a new scheme, new to us at least, in the way of monthly fraternity dinners. The first one came last night and proved a decided success. We want very much to keep our chapter free from all divisions, such as "house girls and outside girls," and we think the surest way to do it is by means of such schemes as this, live fraternity meetings and the like.

We have done a good deal socially this year. At the first we had several informal entertainments, such as small dinners, moonlight wheel rides and walking parties. Then we attempted one or two things on a larger scale, a dance or two and a large formal dinner. We felt pleased with our success in all these ways, thanks to the unselfishness and practical helpfulness of all the girls, and the royal way in which our faculty Thetas helped us. Now we have settled down to our usual monthly reception. That takes a good deal of work because so very many people come, but we think it pays and we feel gratified, too, by this same large attendance which so perplexes us sometimes as to the matter of room and of entertainment.

We have talked convention pretty steadily since Winifred Caldwell came. The way we have pelted her with questions is a caution. But we have gotten satisfaction, and she is a good natured girl. She put only one limitation upon us—that not more than two should talk at once. I wish we might all have been with her, but we shall get a great deal of benefit as it is, so we would better not complain, greediness is down at the root of many evils, they say.

PERSONALS.

ALPHA ALUMNÆ.

Miss Mintie Allen is teaching in Anderson, Ind.

Miss Belle Hanna is city Librarian in the same city.

Miss Jessie Case has a large music class at Attica, Ind.

Miss Sallie Bridges is spending the winter in Indianapolis.

Miss Margaret Jordan is a successful teacher in Greencastle public schools.

Miss Kate Hammond is music director of the city schools of Greencastle, Ind.

Mrs. Dr. H. A. Gobin, wife of the president of Depauw University is one of our number.

Miss Olive Poucher, '91, has recently accepted the position of Latin teacher in the High School at Wabash, Ind.

Mrs. Prof. Duvall now resides at Delaware, Ohio, where Prof. Duvall has the chair of Philosophy at Ohio Wesleyan.

Alpha Alumnæ is the proud possessor of a—baby—Master William Craig Smyser, son of Prof. and Mrs. Smyser of Depauw University.

Mrs. Flora T. Laughlin has gone to Cleveland, Ohio to reside. She was one of Alpha's strongest members and will be greatly missed by all of us.

Miss Ida Blanche Weaver was this year elected to the professorship of French at Depauw University. She is a brilliant and enthusiastic member of Alpha Alumnæ.

We are well represented in our own High School by Miss Martha Ridpath, principal and teacher of Ancient Languages, and Miss Lillian Southard teacher of History.

PHI.

Ada Edwards, '97, is gymnasium instructor at Castellaga Hall.

The Misses Sutton of Omega spent a day with us some time ago.

Maude Grover, '96, has been elected State President of the Y. W. C. A.

Mrs. Leslie Burwell (Carrie Bean) and her husband made us a visit in October.

Kate L. Nash, '95, is teaching Latin and English in the Pasadena High School.

Clara Avery, a Phi at the University of the Pacific, is in the house with us this year.

TAU.

Ruthe Ana Gould has entered the school of oratory.

Mary Gloss spent the holidays at her home in Evanston.

Josephine Fitch has accepted a position as teacher, in the High School of Beloit, Wis.

Miss Grace Dietrich will spend the winter in California seeking the "fountain of health."

It gives us great pleasure to announce the engagement of Jessica Rogers Phillips to Henry Brown Cate, both of Menominee, Mich., also that of Alicia Spies of Menominee, to George Henry Peaks, of Chicago.

PSI.

On Thursday Dec. 19th, 1895, Mrs. Towne, mother of Meta Towne ex-'96, died at her home in Edgerton, Wis.

December 31st, 1895, Anna M. Strong, '94, was married to Professor John M. Parkinson, at her home in Mineral Point, Wisconsin.

Miss Juliet P. Harris, '95, is teaching in the High School at Reedsburg, Wis., Margaret Stiles in Lake Mills and Lenore O'Connor, '95, in River Falls.

LAMBDA.

Mary Bates, '94 is principal of the High School at Shelburne, Vt.

Grace Johnson, '95, has accepted a business position in La Jolla, Cal.

Lillian Scott, '94, has a position in the High School at St. Albans, Vt.

Miss Bessie Wright, '94, has a position in the High School at Newport, Vt.

Grace Wadleigh, ex-'97, has accepted a position as governess at Newburgh, N. Y.

Miss Anna Dyke was married Oct. 16, to Mr. Paul Learnard of Lawrence, Kansas.

Minnie Hurley, '97, has been obliged to lay aside college work, temporarily, on account of ill health.

Frances Atkinson, '95, has charge of the intermediate department of a graded school at Whitefield, N. H.

Theodora Plumley, '97, has left college for the remainder of the year, and accepted a position as assistant preceptress in the Northfield High School.

PI.

Mary Garfield, '94, is teaching in the public schools at St. Joseph, Mich.

Adella Merrill, ex-'98, is teaching in the public schools at St. Joseph, Mich.

Mrs. Zua Thomas Ott, '89, is spending the winter with her parents in Albion.

Agnes Graves, ex-'94, is studying at the Cook County Normal in Chicago, Ill.

Mrs. Myrtie Ray, '90, was married Jan. 1, 1896, to Mr. Ira Fairbanks of Albion.

Emma Agard, '93, was married to Wilber Engle, '93, during the summer. Mr. Engle is Professor of Chemistry in Denver University, Col.

Theo Marie Gardner was married upon Thanksgiving day to Mr. Harry Parker of Albion. Mr. and Mrs. Parker are spending the winter in California.

IOTA.

Amelia Shapleigh, '91, is spending a few days at Cornell.

Elizabeth Carss, '95, has a position in the Teachers' College, New York City.

Edith Todd, special '95, is principal of the Teachers' Training School at Wooster Mass.

Myrtle Wells, '93, was married on Sept. 4, to Mr. Harry Bradley. Her new home is at Wellsville, N. Y.

Mary L. Robbins, '91, holds the graduate scholarship in English at Cornell University this year.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT.

WHEREAS, God in His divine providence has seen fit to afflict our sisters, Annie Barker and Caro Barker Kingsley by removing from them their mother, and

WHEREAS, We desire to express our heartfelt love and condolence ; be it

Resolved, That the members of Lambda Chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta do extend to them our deepest sympathy in their bereavement ; also

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to them and a copy be printed in the Kappa Alpha Theta.

RUTH NORTON, }
GRACE NOYES. } Com.

EDITORIAL.

In assuming the responsibilities of editorial work, the new board wish to acknowledge the courtesy and kindness which have been extended to them by their predecessors, and the ready offers of assistance in smoothing the way for them.

While new to the work, we are not insensible to the editor's duties and obligations, and we hope to meet them in the right spirit. We even have our ideals in regard to our work and its results, but these must not be published here. On the whole they are mainly useful in the editorial sanctum, as objects to be aimed at, rather than as a public standard by which to measure the future shortcomings of our efforts. We have made many promises to ourselves, but they are so loaded down with conditions that even they had better not be exposed in cold type.

If the next two years with the journal go on as pleasantly for the editors as they have begun, our lot will indeed be a happy one. Instead of the thoughtless disregard or widespread and overpowering "lack of time" that we rather feared we should meet in asking for material for the journal, we have had such prompt and cordial replies, from the *alumnæ* as well as active members, that we have been not only greatly relieved and pleased, but somewhat surprised as well. Whether it is quite wise to mention this pleasing fact may be questioned, but certainly lack of appreciation must answer for more failures than over praise, and we might add a corollary to the effect that this is not intended as a card of thanks so much as an encouragement to all *Thetas* yet uncalled on to go and do likewise when their turn comes.

While this is highly satisfactory for the editor, is it not also an indication of the existence of that healthy enthusiasm for the fraternity that every member should not only feel, but show? The fraternity is primarily, but not ultimately, a college institution and not for an instant would we allow

that the high aims that have characterized the true fraternity member are to be forgotten when she enters on her new life. She cannot fail to take with her the influence for good that she has, in part at least, acquired in her fraternity life; but must this influence be of necessity turned wholly into new channels? Should not those who take her place have a right to claim a share? And how better can the alumna keep herself in touch with the fraternity as a whole than through the journal? That she still bears the old love and loyalty is seen at once by the quick response to any appeal, but seldom is it strong enough to prompt her to voluntary contribution to the journal, or to do more than to give a sincerely cordial greeting to any Theta that she may happen to meet and to take a warm interest in any news of her old chapter which may chance to reach her, for she rarely thinks of exercising forethought enough to make sure that such news shall reach her by its legitimate channel, through the journal.

The journal should be and is one of the strongest factors in the unification of the fraternity. The chapters look to it to help them to come more closely together in their work for the common end and through it they often gain their only personal knowledge of the alumnae of whom they have many times heard with pride and whose words of advice and criticism would be most eagerly welcomed. Our keen interest in personality is one of our strongest incentives to action and the alumna can do more than any one else to make the student of to-day the ideal alumna of to-morrow and she can do it simply by showing the interest that she feels. From her broader, deeper experience she can encourage those who are taking her place in the active chapter and trying to keep the tone of the fraternity high and pure as she helped to make it, and she knows best how to recognize and discourage evils apt to arise partly from inexperience or an undisciplined enthusiasm and an inability to see from any but the standpoint of the student. And through her the student will realize that the fraternity is not merely

a temporary expedient but is worth belonging to and working for after college life is over.

Will not each alumna who reads this feel that this consideration is a personal appeal to her in the interests of the fraternity through our representative magazine and may we not have encouraging results in contributions and subscriptions to the journal? Without aid in both these directions it can never realize our high hopes and become, as it should be, one of the most powerful means for the development of the best that is in the fraternity.

Our ex-Grand President has been the first to offer us practical criticisms and suggestions as to the journal, and they are more than welcome, especially because we agree with them almost unreservedly. The suggestion as to the *alumnæ* and undergraduate departments has been followed and now it rests with the active and graduate Thetas to see that after this these are kept always full to overflowing with appropriate contributions. There is to be no literary department in the journal. After that which relates especially to our own fraternity we shall try to print only what relates to fraternity and college interests and to woman's work in the various fields in which she finds a place.

Firmly as we were convinced of the soundness of our position in this respect, we were very glad to have such an endorsement, and if the time should come when the lack of support is such that we are tempted to print purely literary or scientific articles we shall hope to see the journal withdrawn from the number of avowedly fraternity papers.

As regards the suggested discussion of non-secrecy we shall be very glad to print all articles on the affirmative side in the next journal to be followed in the subsequent issue by the negative. An animated discussion of this topic would be most interesting at this time, and in order to judge clearly and decide intelligently we must consider the matter from all possible standpoints. So let us in the next journal have arguments from all who hold an affirmative position in

regard to non-secrecy, whether they are short or long, exhaustive or otherwise, they are sure to be suggestive.

It is with the greatest pleasure that we give a hearty welcome to our new Delta sisters at the University of Illinois, Champaign, Ills. The new chapter was fortunate at the outset in being so placed that members from a number of chapters could be present at the initiation and give them a good start in their new life. With the good advice that they must have received then and the fact that they have alumnae of older chapters living beside them they should hardly feel the ordinary difficulties of beginners. We offer them our warmest greeting and sincere wishes for the greatest possible success and happiness in their fraternity life.

The editor of the catalogue wishes to call the attention of the new girls to the fact that few of them have supplied themselves with catalogues. Certainly no member who desires to keep fully abreast of fraternity matters can afford to do without a copy of the catalogue. It is of the utmost value and interest as a book of reference for the history of chapters and, so far as possible, of members also.

EXCHANGES.

"Hope springs eternal in the human heart." Although not so stated, one might venture to surmise that the poet must have been inspired by the beautiful faith of the editors of the fraternity magazines, that sometime the ideal chapter letter will be evolved. We quote, from a very readable though not exhaustive article on the Sorority Magazines, which appeared in the January number of *The Key*, the following excellent and almost pathetic comments, which the chapter correspondents will read with contrite attention and then promptly proceed to forget before the next chapter letters are due.

"The one department which is found in all magazines is that of the chapter letters. Who first wrote a chapter letter is not down on the annals, but if heredity counts for anything, he wrote on both sides of the paper. Spenser and Weismann may dispute as long as they like, all editors of fraternity magazines know that acquired traits are transmitted, and not only from father to son but from secretary to secretary. If there is any magazine which has received no double-faced contributions, let it come forth, that its sisters may put it on a pedestal, and then turn to worship its contributors. The quality of the sorority chapter letters varies little. They all incline to put in the things which interest no one but themselves, and leave out all the items which their sisters most want to know. Yet they are an improvement upon those written by the men, and their writers need not be ashamed of them. They would have reason to be proud, if they could in some way show the individuality of the different chapters. As it is, one may begin with the oldest, *The Key*, and read them all down to *The Trident*, which is the sorority magazine baby, without finding any variation from the same dead level of events."

The Kappa Alpha Theta desires no pedestal but it congratulates itself and its correspondents upon the fact that, for this issue, not one of the chapter letters was written on both sides of the paper.

We clip, from the convention number of the *Arrow*, the following extracts on inter-fraternity pledges.

"The strength of the pledge lay in the fact that a longer time was given for deliberation in issuing of invitations to membership, which, of course, was a great safeguard against mistakes. Its weakness, and the thing that caused its dissolution, was that the girls in their zeal to make the pledge binding, added so many detailed stipulations to the chief one, that the spirit of the compact was violated in the efforts made to live up to the letter of it.

Nevertheless the spirit of such an inter-fraternity compact is of unquestionable benefit both to the fraternity agreeing to it, and to the girl destined to be rushed. Wherever she is, Pi Beta Phi considers it to her advantage to give a new girl time to cultivate the acquaintance of her members, and on the other hand her members dislike to issue any invitation hastily. Where there is no compact entered into by rival fraternities, however, some things are apt to be done hastily from a fear of being left behind in the "rush line." Therefore it seems to me the spirit of having such a compact is one to be encouraged by Pi Phis."

The Swarthmore chapter has been obliged, on account of the illness of the editor, to give up the publication of the *Arrow*, and the chapter of Pi Beta Phi at Madison, Wis. has been appointed to publish it for the ensuing year.

The Kappa Alpha journal for October contains an interesting account of the eighteenth biennial convention of the order, held at Atlanta, Ga., on the 25th of September. It was then decided to grant no more *sub rosa* charters. The subject of fraternity extension also received much consideration. The chapter at the University of California has so far been the only chapter west of Missouri, but the establishment of the new chapter at Leland Stanford, Jr., University, is another decided step toward the extension of the order further north. The following clipping is from an account of the new chapter which appears in the journal:

"While some may think that this step is a great stride away from the conservatism that keeps the order in the south, yet it is but in accord with the growing idea of expansion and development, that have been sometime throbbing in the mind of Kappa Alpha.

"From California there must be, to preserve the strength of our organization, a steady working towards the east. It can only mean a declaration that sometime the order will extend solid from ocean to ocean, even if it never goes further north."

We quote once more, this time from an editorial on the Pan-Hellenic convention at Atlanta :

"This congress should also be the initiative of bringing about certain interfraternity regulations on the order of international law. While fraternities will probably always maintain a certain autonomy, yet there is no reason why they should not adopt an interfraternity code. In this code, when it is agreed to, there should be certain regulations pertaining to the rushing of new men at college. If all the fraternities would agree upon a certain date upon which it was permitted every organization at every college to begin the rushing, there would be very few mistakes ; and at the same time it would tend to increase the respect that the freshmen have for such organizations. It is but the natural conclusion of men when every fraternity at the college where they enter runs at once to them to secure them as members, that the organizations are weak in a measure, and dependent upon them. Then, too, one of a thoughtful turn of mind will at once conclude that the chapters are by no means as exclusive as they would have the outside world to believe.

"Another thing that could be regulated by this code is the fraternity sin of lifting both chapters and individuals. There is something of the game of grab in this practice that is not in keeping with the professions of high ideals that we make to the world. Too often it appears that the securing of numbers is higher in the esteem of a fraternity than the maintenance of those lofty qualities of right and justice, without which no character can be considered to be rounded and noble."

To an outsider, perhaps the most interesting part of the *Delta Kappa Epsilon Quarterly*, is an enthusiastic account of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Xi chapter, the third oldest chapter of D. K. E. The *Quarterly* gives in full the poem of the occasion, from which we might quote many stanzas, but content ourselves with one taken from a distinctly humorous description of college life in the forties :

" Oh! those were the days that tried boys' souls,
And you'll see on looking back,
That the road to learning ran not as now,
On the top of a cinder track."

Very apropos of the present widespread interest in the chapter house question comes a suggestive article, in the *Beta Theta Pi* for November, on 'The Chapter, the Chapter House and the Point of View. The writer, Mr. Willis O. Robb, points out a danger that may threaten the fraternity house, in view of which he gives the following quotation from Chancellor Upson's address on the opening of the new buildings of the University of the City of New York.

" I believe most sincerely in college secret societies, so-called. I believe that the Greek-letter fraternities are invaluable in the good influence exerted upon the members by each other, in the unselfish ambitions they encourage in each other, and in the ennobling friendships formed therein, which last forever. * * * My conviction is deliberate, not altogether ignorant, but founded upon considerable experience, that these societies largely promote a loyal and enthusiastic interest in the college or university where they are; and that in collegiate government and in university affairs they can be legitimately used to promote good order and manly ambition and earnest work. If I were in a university faculty, I should be the last to vote for their exclusion. I should rather be the first to urge their introduction.

" But while I believe all this and more, I seriously fear that the building of chapter-houses, now so common in many of our colleges, may increase those exclusive tendencies which are one of the evils of these societies. I fear that these chapter-houses may dwarf and narrow the life and character of our young men, which would be enriched and broadened in the freer and larger associations of the dormitory."

Mr. Robb compares this extract from the Chancellor's address with a paragraph which appeared in the *Beta Theta Pi* of October in favor of chapter houses and points out, both the benefits derived from them, and the dangers that are to be guarded against in the system. The following extracts are sure to be of interest both to those more fortunate ones who are exposed to said dangers and to those of us who would like to be. Mr. Robb says :

"What struck me at once in these two paragraphs was the difference in the point of view, rather than the difference in the conclusions, of their respective writers. The editor had in mind the good of the chapter, and of its members, considered as fraternity men. The chancellor had in mind the good of the college, and of its students, considered as collegians. And I take my pen in hand to emphasize the proposition that not only the chapter-house problem, but many another like it, must be considered by the undergraduate neither from the one nor the other of these two points of view exclusively, but from both of them, and very likely from several others besides. * * * The fraternity man who, in all his college functions and relations, is everywhere and always first of all a fraternity man, is, in my judgment, clearly a distorted and unhealthy type of undergraduate manhood, and therefore, even of fraternity manhood. * * * Blind partisanship is as much a crime in college politics as in civil life. The student who votes for a candidate for class or society orator on the ground of fraternity relationship is as blameworthy as the citizen of New York who votes for a candidate for mayor or recorder on the ground of his orthodoxy on the national question of the tariff or the currency. * * * I venture the assertion that if each Beta who reads this page will try to pick out the best fraternity man he knew in college, most of them will hit upon names that were almost as popular outside as inside their respective chapters. The best Betas were also the best fellows in other relations. As students, as classmen, as society men, as all-round college men, they were equally conspicuous. * * * Paradoxical as it may seem, the more catholic mankind becomes, the more "clubable" men are. But their clubs cease to be fashioned on the pattern of the Mafia or the highbinders' conspiracies, and make up in breadth of sympathy what they lose in intensity of partisan fury."

The article concludes with these words :

"There is a real element of danger in the movements, which needs only to be pointed out to thoughtful men in order to be gotten rid of."

The last number of the Scroll contains an interesting account of the life and a list of the works of Eugene Field, who was a charter member of the Illinois Delta chapter of Phi Delta Theta at Knox College.

COLLEGE AND FRATERNITY NOTES.

A partial record of births and deaths in the Greek world during the last few months is: Phi Kappa Psi, entered Nebraska, withdrawn, Buchtel. Delta Tau Delta, withdrawn, Buchtel, Hanover, and the parent chapter at Bethany. Phi Kappa Sigma, entered Dickinson by absorption of Alpha Zeta Phi, local; died at North Carolina. Alpha Tau Omega died at Roanoke and Hampden-Sydney, very shaky at Michigan. Kappa Sigma, new chapters at Wabash, Ohio State, and Kentucky; withdrawn Emory and Henry. Sigma Nu, revived at Tulane. Theta Delta Chi, withdrawn Dickinson. Phi Delta Theta, extinct at North Carolina and Richmond. Beta Theta Pi, extinct at Richmond. Sigma Chi, dead at Minnesota. Chi Phi, dead Ohio State. Among the professionals and honoraries, Phi Delta Phi has placed a new branch at Nebraska; Theta Nu Epsilon has entered Nebraska, Mississippi, and Tulane, and Phi Beta Kappa has a new charter at Nebraska. Kappa Alpha has reorganized at South Carolina and entered Leland Stanford.—*K. A. Journal.*

Cambridge was the first English university to open her doors to women, just twenty-five years ago. Even now the women of Cambridge enter and pursue their studies in colleges separate from the men, and their examinations are somewhat different. The most serious defect in the co-education of Cambridge is the fact that the university grants women no degrees. The state of affairs at Oxford is very similar to that at Cambridge.—*Ex.*

Emperor Francis Joseph has accorded permission to women to study medicine in the University of Hungary.—*Ex.*

The grand chapter of Delta Gamma has ceased to exist and their council of five members which hitherto had a merely nominal existence has been invested with executive authority.

The correspondent from Boston University says that the entering class numbers over 100. He does not disclose the further fact that of this number all but twenty-four are women. Last year out of 259 students in the College of Liberal Arts, "the proportion of women to men was over three to one. About nine-tenths of the men in the college department are fraternity members." The only male fraternities in this department are B. Θ. II., which had twenty-six members last year; Θ. Δ. X., twenty-two members, B. Σ. (local) four members. Φ. Δ. Φ., Σ. A. E. and II. Σ. P. (local) are in the law department. The following is from a recent issue of the *New York World*: "At Boston University the senior class may organize a society for men's rights. There are more women than men in the class, and at a recent meeting the tyrannical majority overruled the minority and ordained that the cap and gown should be adopted. The men, with masculine indifference to the picturesque, are strongly opposed to the idea."—*Beta Theta Pi*.

There is an institution at Princeton called Evelyn College, which seems not yet to have attained the notoriety which is its due. It is explained regarding it that while it was not in any sense an annex of Princeton, its young women enjoy the courses of the Princeton professors in all departments except modern languages, music, and art, which are taught by resident instructors. One may guess without possessing absolute knowledge of the matter that it is the aspiration of Evelyn to sustain such a relation to Princeton as Radcliffe sustains to Harvard, or Barnard to Columbia. If so, it is an honorable aspiration, and events seem to be working for its fulfillment. Evelyn, meanwhile, reports an increased number of students.—*Caduceus*.

The various chapters at Dartmouth have undertaken to lessen the dangers attending the promiscuous rushing season generally indulged in, by adopting the subsequent commendable regulations:

" HANOVER, N. H., June 13, 1895.

"We, the undersigned fraternities, hereby adopt the following resolutions:

" 1. No mention of fraternities or fraternity matters of any kind shall be made by a member of any of these fraternities to any student or prospective student of Dartmouth College, who is not a member of any of these fraternities, before Nov. 20 of each college year.

" 2. Any pledge made before Nov. 20 of each college year shall be considered invalid; and pledges made with the members of the class of '99, or succeeding classes, before the adoption of this agreement shall be considered invalid.

" 3. Any fraternity desiring to withdraw from this agreement shall do so only after giving at least six months' notice to each of the other fraternities."

This agreement was mutually entered into by Psi Upsilon, Kappa Kappa Kappa, Alpha Delta Phi, Delta Kappa Epsilon, Theta Delta Chi, Phi Delta Theta, Beta Theta Pi, and Sigma Chi.—*K. A. Journal*.

At the Pan-Hellenic congress held in Atlanta the American Pan-Hellenic Society was organized. Officers were elected and a committee on constitution was appointed to report at the next convention consisting of representatives of all known fraternities.—*Ex.*

On November 2d official announcement was made of another munificent gift of John D. Rockefeller to the University of Chicago—the unconditional presentation of \$1,000,000, available January 1st, next, and \$2,000,000 conditional on raising the same amount. A portion of the money will be used to erect buildings for new departments. Mr. Rockefeller's previous gifts to the institution amount to \$4,300,000.

The latest Fraternity to enter the Greek rank is X. P. which was organized last year in the Divinity School of Northwestern University. It only elects honor men from the graduating classes without regard to other Fraternity affiliations. Its practices are similar to those of Φ. B. K. with which however, it is not intended to conflict, as many of its men are Φ. B. K's. It is intended to enter all the leading Divinity

Schools, and steps are now being taken toward organizing a number of Chapters during the year.—*Σ. A. E. Record*.

The most momentous bit of undergraduate devilment that has been reported this year, occurred at the State College at Bellefonte, Pennsylvania. Certain Sophomores wanted two Freshmen, and being unable to get them out of the house where they were, seized the college cannon, loaded it with such small missiles as happened to be convenient, and bombarded the house. There was about a thousand dollars damages to pay. Two of the cannonaders were expelled and fourteen suspended indefinitely.—*Bachelor of Arts Magazine*.

The Glee Club of Washington University at St. Louis has been disbanded because the Chancellor forbade the singing of Rolyn's "If you want a kiss, why take it." The Chancellor's action was taken because a preacher, the father of one of the singers, heard the song and objected to it on account of the title.—*Ex*.

In the present House of Representatives there are 173 college-bred men, against 183 who are not college graduates.—*Ex*.

Probably the oldest college student in America is at the University of Kansas. He is seventy years of age and graduates next spring, when he expects to take up the practice of law.

It is reported that the Sultan of Turkey has asked the United States government to find him three American professors to place at the head of his three departments of science, art and agriculture.—*Ex*.

The McGraw-Fiske mansion, situated near the northern end of Cornell University campus, has been purchased by the Cornell chapter of Chi Psi for use as a chapter house. The consideration was \$45,000 for the house and five acres of ground. The building was erected at a cost of over \$125,000 for the late Jennie McGraw-Fiske, but was not completed at the time of her death. By this purchase the chapter secures what is undoubtedly the finest chapter house in this country.

From recent developments it would seem that the chapter which existed at the University of Michigan, in the law department, as a rival of $\Phi. \Delta. \Phi.$ and $K. \Sigma.$, has been inactive for more than a year. It is the chapter that precipitated upon $\Sigma. X.$ the President Cleveland predicament, when, to offset its rival, the legal fraternity, $\Phi. \Delta. \Phi.$, it tendered membership to the President on the occasion of his visit to Ann Arbor. It is said that the President accepted the invitation under the impression that it was the law fraternity which he was asked to join. The chapter at Minnesota was last year reduced to one man.—*Scroll.*

Colby, Syracuse, Swarthmore, Iowa, Nebraska, and Johns Hopkins have been granted chapters of Phi Beta Kappa.

Theta Delta Chi has entered the University of Wisconsin, having granted a charter to a local society, Sigma Delta Sigma. Twenty-eight men were initiated.

On the 26th of October Pi Beta Phi established a chapter with nine charter members, at the University of Illinois, Champaign, Ill.

The young women of Lake Forest University have formed an athletic association, to which are eligible for membership all female members of the University and all others who may be recommended by the standing committee. Its object is to promote athletic games and interests among the young women in connection with their regular gymnastic work.—*Ex.*

A movement is on foot, among the women at Cornell to organize a crew to row under about the same conditions as prevail at Wellesley College.

Alpha Delta Phi, which has heretofore been a "four-year" society at Yale has now become a junior society.

Trouble which had been brewing for some time between the Brown University chapter of Chi Phi and the authorities of that order resulted in the appended open letter to the public, which appeared in the *Brunonian*, June 1st:

"TO THE COLLEGE WORLD.

" *Whereas*, The Kappa Chapter of Chi Phi was founded at Brown University in 1872 by the secret Order of Chi Phi and has existed to the present time under the original charter granted by that body ; and

" *Whereas*, The secret Order of Chi Phi in 1874 united with the Southern Order of Chi Phi (so-called), and formed the Chi Phi Fraternity ; and

" *Whereas*, The Chi Phi Fraternity has persisted in violating the rights of the Kappa Chapter by seeking to withdraw its charter on grounds wholly unconstitutional and unjust, and by seeking to injure its good reputation ; and

" *Whereas*, The Chi Phi Fraternity has not only violated its own constitution, but has sought to foist upon its chapters a standard totally opposed to the manly character and democratic spirit which our own Alma Mater has always inculcated ; and

" *Whereas*, The Kappa Chapter regards this standard as unworthy of itself and of Brown University ; and,

" *Whereas*, The Chi Phi Fraternity has utterly violated its oaths of obligations and agreements with the Kappa Chapter, and thus left this chapter free to act independently ; and,

" *Whereas*, The alumni of Kappa Chapter have re-established the supreme organization of the secret Order of Chi Phi ; be it

" *Resolved*, That the Kappa Chapter dissolve its connection with the Chi Phi Fraternity ; that it resume its allegiance to the secret Order of Chi Phi, and that it continue its existence as a chapter of that organization."

These resolutions were unanimously adopted by the chapter, every member's name being appended thereto, together with the " hearty endorsement " of a representative committee of the chapter's alumni body. The truth of the matter in a nutshell is that Chi Phi has been endeavoring for years to rid itself of this chapter, the above action being the result of the chapter's recent formal dismissal from that Fraternity.—*K. A. Journal*.

THE KAPPA ALPHA THETA,

Published by the Fraternity. Edited by Iota Chapter.

NOVEMBER, FEBRUARY, MAY.

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
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